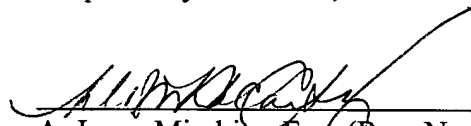


REMARKS

Applicant hereby submits an amendment after Appeal in the pending application. Applicant respectfully requests that the amendment be entered for purposes of Appeal. Applicant has canceled claims 1-4 and 6-8 and amended claim 9. Claim 9 has been amended to include the limitations of its base claim and is presented in independent form. Thus, no new issues are raised by the present amendment, as the amendment involves canceling some claims and simply rewriting a previously dependent claim in independent form. Further, issues on appeal are simplified since an independent claim (claim 1) and most of its dependent claims (claims 2-4 and 6-8) have been canceled.

The application is believed to be in allowable condition, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. To answer any questions, or otherwise further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 23, 2004